

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 remain pending in the application. Claims 13-14 have been added in this Amendment.

Figures 1-3 and 5 were objected to because they were not designated by a legend such as "Prior Art". Accordingly, annotated and replacement drawings are being submitted concurrently herewith in which drawings 1-3 and 5 have been labeled as "Prior Art".

The specification has been reviewed and minor editorial amendments were made to determine the presence of grammatical errors.

Applicants appreciatively note that claims 9-11 have been indicated as allowable and claims 1-8 have been indicated to contain allowable subject matter subject to overcoming the indefiniteness rejections.

Claims 1-12 were objected to because of noted informalities. In response, the claims have been amended to overcome the informalities. Accordingly, the objections should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In response, claims 1, 3, 6 and 8 have been amended to overcome the indefiniteness rejection. Specifically, claim 8 has been amended to make clear what is being claimed and therefore overcomes the Section 101 rejection.

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including

extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth M. Berner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kenneth M. Berner
Registration No. 37,093

Customer Number: 33308
1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1111
(703) 518-5499 Facsimile
Date: February 17, 2004
KMB/jd